

LAST EDITION.
THREE RESENTENCED.
Slocum, Smiler and Wood to Die the
Week of July 6.
An Interview with the Con-
demned Baseball Player.

Sum Tells "The Evening World"
About His Life in Prison,
His Hopes and Fears.

James Slocum and Harris A. Smiler, the
wife murderers, and Joseph Wood, the colored
man, who killed another colored laborer,
were brought down from Sing Sing this morning
for resentence to death, the United States
Supreme Court having dismissed the writ upon
which their electrocution was stayed almost at
the last moment.

Slocum, Smiler and Wood were each sen-
tenced to die by electricity in Sing Sing Prison
during the week beginning July 6.

An Evening World reporter came down-
town on the L train from the Grand Central
Station with the condemned men, who were in
charge of State Detective Jackson, assisted by
Keeper C. L. Fitch. Wood was handcuffed
alone, but Slocum and Smiler were handcuffed
together, each by one hand from the other.

The reporter at Slocum's side had an
interesting conversation with him, begun
soon after the train left the Forty-second
street station and terminated at the Court-
house door.

Wood is an insignificant-looking colored man,
rather below the average height, but with a
full of red curly hair. He wore a dark suit
coat, brown trousers and black derby hat. He
was white-skinned and turned down over his
newly laundered, and but for the steel hand-
cuffs on his wrists he would have been mis-
taken for a quiet and respectable colored citi-
zen.

His quiet bearing is one of his characteris-
tics. He seemed lost in thought, but smiled
twice at remarks made to him by Slocum and
Smiler.

There was a strong contrast between these
two latter. Slocum has the frame of a Her-
cules. He is a tall, well-built fellow, and on
the ball-field would receive as much admira-
tion as any of the star players of the day.

His face is not bad, and he has a kindly eye.
He talks earnestly and his face lights up with
a smile that impresses one in his favor. He
wears an ordinary business suit of mixed goods,
but his shirt is collarless. He was cleanly
shaven.

Smiler is a small, slender fellow, with a
weak neck. He was dressed in dark clothes
and wore a standing collar. His dark mustache
was nicely trimmed and curled at the ends.
He would not attract attention in a crowd,
nor would he have been distinguishable from
the ordinary run of passengers in the train but
for the wrist-cuffs, which could not be concealed.

He talked volubly, his conversation being
directed to State Detective Jackson, who sat
beside him. The subject was his case, the
grave errand which enabled him to breathe
for a few hours the fresh air and gaze upon
the faces of other people.

Of course he considers that he did not have
a fair trial and he was unjustly convicted
and was to be unfairly resentence. This and
the evidence of the witnesses against him was
the burden of his talk.

Of the three, Slocum is the most interesting.
He was a ball-player and had won considerable
renown in the minor leagues. He had kept
out of trouble he would today probably be
occupying a high place in the ranks of the Na-
tional game's favorites.

After answering an inquiry as to his health,
Slocum said:

"You know we never hear anything up
there. Can you tell me whether the United
States Supreme Court has decided the question
as to whether my lawyer, Heinemann, was a
competent lawyer? My appeal was based
upon the point that, as Heinemann was not a
regularly admitted lawyer, his appearance for
me nullified the proceedings."

Not desiring to make the condemned man's
journey sadder than it seemed it must be, the
reporter attempted to evade the question by
suggesting that it didn't make much difference
what the decision of the Court had been, as he
counsel could take another appeal and another
almost indefinitely.

"But that's just what I don't want," quoth
Slocum. "If I can't get a new trial on the
ground that he was not properly represented
by counsel, I don't want any more trial."
I tell you it's awful to be confined up there
without knowing anything about what's going
on outside. If I can't get a new trial I'd rather
have it all over for good and all."

Slocum did not say this in a spirit of bravado.
It was apparently the talk of a man in earnest,
who had canvassed every point thoroughly and
was prepared for the worst.

"Aren't you treated well up there?" asked
the reporter, dropping into the prisoner's ven-
erular for Sing Sing.

"Yes, we're treated well enough. I have
no complaint to make. But solitary confine-
ment is a dreadful thing, and I would rather
die than endure it if there was no hope of a
new trial. I don't want to live hoping and de-
spairing. You haven't got any idea what the feel-
ing is—it's worse than death."

"How do you pass your time?"
"Reading."

"What do you read?"
"Books from the library."

"Is your food good?"
"Oh, yes, we get two meals a day—dinner at
noon getting only half an hour's exercise a day,
as we do, ought to eat."

"Do you see and talk to your fellow-
prisoners?"

"No, we don't see each other, and we don't
talk much, only to the guards. Even one has
his own affairs to think of and his own way of
passing the time. But we have heard more
one of the other men, and at times we hear
each other's voices."

"Do I have a chance to make?"
"Oh, I have no chance to make. I know I
wouldn't be convicted of anything more
than manslaughter, but I haven't any
hope unless the Supreme Court decides
that Heinemann's appearance was all wrong.
If that's decided against me I don't want an-
other move made—only to let the law take its
course."

"Wouldn't you rather have a stay granted
from time to time?"
"No; it would be no good. If it's only to
put off I don't want them to do anything
more. If I've got to go why I'd rather it
would take place soon than to be hanging
over the way as has been the case."

"How do the other men feel on this sub-
ject? Are they like you, or do you think they
would welcome stays indefinitely?"
"They feel pretty well contented."

"If the worst comes, how will you meet it?"
"I try to meet it like a man. It's an aw-
ful thing to prepare for, but I believe I
can meet it. You know I have been almost
there once before. It's a terrible strain. I'd
rather not go through it again for the last time."

"How did the other men take the prepara-
tions?"
"Well, I don't like to say anything about
that. You know we're all in the same boat.
That's a Japanese Bible that he reads, and he
imagines that he's Abraham. Oh, he does
beautify things. He's crazy, sure enough."

"How about Welliver?"
"I'd rather not say anything about him."

"How is Terza?"
"He's getting fat as a pig. It agrees with
him."

"How will he take the worst?"
"Oh! he'll be half crazy, and Smiler's got
no nerve at all."

When the condemned men left the train at
City Hall station and walked across the bridge
toward the Court House, Slocum glanced
around and said:

"You know I was raised in the ward near
here, and it looks homelike. It does me good
to get down here to look around. The green
trees and the grass look beautiful."

It's worth the trip just to see things once
more and breathe the pure air. With six men
in a 60x30 building the air isn't any too good,
and it makes me feel like a new man again. If
I only got a new trial I'd live to get free."

Going through the Park to the Court House
Slocum said that the solitary confinement had
not done him any harm, and that although he
looked well and hearty he was not as strong as
he was when he was playing ball.

"If I had been for this," he said, "I
might be playing ball to-day. But I didn't
know what I was doing. I was out of my
mind. But if I could get a new trial I
could prove that I wasn't guilty of more than
manslaughter, and one of these days I might
be free again."

Before entering the door of the brownstone
courthouse the three men turned and gazed
at the Palace building and the city with
glancing glances at the Park, with its green
grass and trees, stepped inside.

They were taken straight to the District
Attorney's Office, and for more than an hour
they sat in a room in McKim's Temple's private
apartment, waiting for the trial. The papers
were laid out before them, and the motion
for a new trial was made for the killing of a
man by a new day for their killing by the
electrical machine.

All three men became gloomy, but spoke
pleasantly when a question was addressed to
them.

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General Term of the Supreme Court in the
Broadway end of the Court House, and there
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seated in a room on the second floor.

Justices Barrett and Patterson occupied the
Bench, Presiding Justice Van Brunt being
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